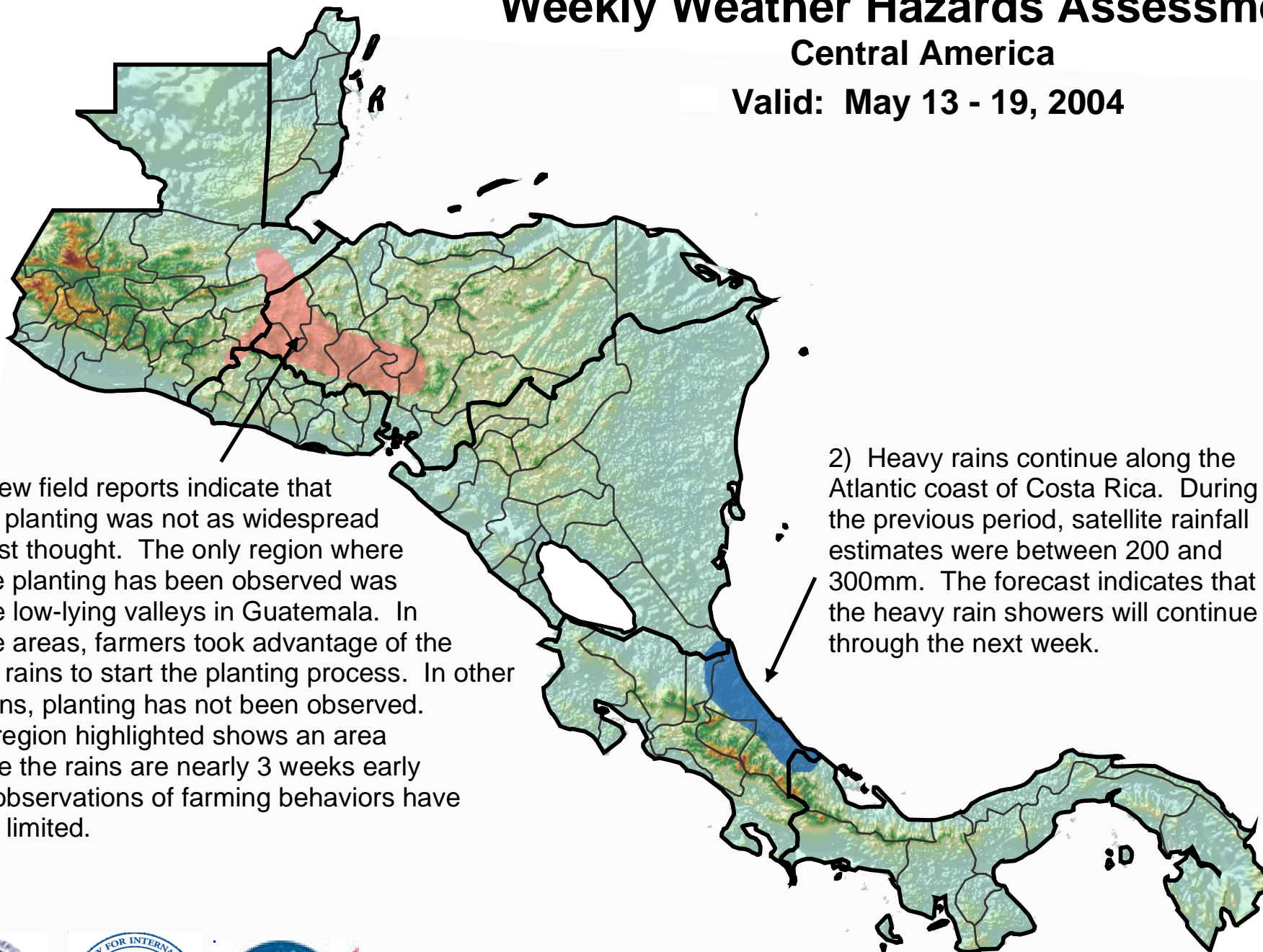


Weekly Weather Hazards Assessment

Central America

Valid: May 13 - 19, 2004



1) New field reports indicate that early planting was not as widespread as first thought. The only region where some planting has been observed was in the low-lying valleys in Guatemala. In these areas, farmers took advantage of the early rains to start the planting process. In other regions, planting has not been observed. The region highlighted shows an area where the rains are nearly 3 weeks early and observations of farming behaviors have been limited.

2) Heavy rains continue along the Atlantic coast of Costa Rica. During the previous period, satellite rainfall estimates were between 200 and 300mm. The forecast indicates that the heavy rain showers will continue through the next week.



Mesoamerican Food Security Early Warning System
Sistema Mesoamericano de Alerta Temprana para Seguridad Alimentaria